

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of John Kincaid S19367

Transcribed by Will Graves and C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia, County of Fayette

~~On this 16th day of September 1833 personally appeared~~ On this 17th day of February 1834 personally appeared in open court before the Court of the County of Fayette now sitting the same being a court of record John Kincaid a resident of said Fayette County and State of Virginia aged 73 years to the best of his knowledge on the 10th day of March last who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to claim the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress of the United States passed June 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States of the following named officers & served as herein stated: that he was drafted in the month of February in the year 1781 under Captain John Henderson and Lieutenant John Woods and Major Andrew Hamilton had the command. He then lived in Greenbrier County Virginia. He started to the place of rendezvous on or about the 14th day of February and met at James Byrnsides [probably James Burnside's] the place of rendezvous on the 15th day of that month 1781. He was drafted as a private in said company but if there were any stated time for the termination of his service he does not now recollect. He served more than six months or perhaps seven. But he thinks he did not serve as much as seven by a very few days. He does not know on what day he was discharged. He lived his whole time in Western Virginia. The company was assembled in Greenbrier County Virginia they were then marched to the fort "Chessel" then in Montgomery County Virginia [sic, Fort Chiswell now in Wythe County]. After remaining there some six or eight weeks he was marched back to Woodses' fort near New River in Greenbrier County [Fort Woods 4 mi NE of Peterstown now in Monroe County WV] and was kept employed in guarding Indians and Tories. He was here under Captain Archibald Woods. He aided in retaking eleven American prisoners from the Indians after killing two Indians in the engagement. After having served the foregoing period and performed the foregoing services, he was discharged by Captain Woods and Henderson both signing a written discharge - which discharge is either lost or mislaid.

In the spring of 1782 he was again drafted under Captain Archibald Woods. He does not know in what month. This was in Greenbrier County Virginia. He served to the best of his recollection under this draft three months. He was stationed in Greenbrier County but was frequently sent as a spy out of that County in pursuit of Indians. From this service he was discharged but not in writing.

In the summer of 1783 [could be 1782] the month he does not recollect he was again called into the service as a drafted militia man under the same Captain A. Woods and served three months guarding the Country from the depredations of the Indians. This was generally in Greenbrier County after which time he was verbally discharged by his Captain.

He served his whole time as a private and never received a commission. He has no documentary evidence of his services but he believes he can prove his services by a living witness. He was born on the 10th day of March 1760 to the best of his knowledge. He has no record of his age. He was born in the County of Amherst in the State of Virginia. He generally lived in the County of Greenbrier and Kanawha until the formation of Fayette County in which he now lives. Major Andrew Hamilton was the highest officer in command under whom he served. There is no clergyman in his neighborhood. But he is known to Joseph Skaggs and James Dickens of his neighborhood who can testify to his character for veracity and the General belief of his services as a soldier in the revolution. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ John Kincaid

Virginia }
Fayette County to wit }

John Patterson [pension application R8003] on the day personally appeared before me Edward Williams a justice of the peace in & for Fayette County & made oath that on the 15 day of February 1781 he met with one John Kincaid who now resides in said Fayette County and appears to be about 73 years of age at James Byrnsides' in the County of Greenbrier Va. the place of rendezvous of Capt John Henderson's company of drafted malitia to which company this affiant and said Kincaid both

belonged. that he does not certainly know how long he served, this affiant having left said company at the expiration of about five months - leaving as he believes said Kincaid in the service - and further this affiant saith not
[signed 16 Sep 1833] John Patterson

NOTES:

In the file is a letter received at the Pension Office on 20 Jul 1860 from one John Kincaid of Fayette County inquiring whether the heirs of John Kincaid the pensioner might be entitled to a pension. The letter includes the following: "the service performed by the man to which I refer was against the Indians in the early settling of Greenbrier County of this state and at such an early day that I do not know that there is any one now living that served with him - but there is a lady living in this County that heard a prisoner rescued from the Indians say that he (Kincaid) was one of the liberators."

The present John Kincaid was dropped from the pension roll on 24 Aug 1835 because the Pension Office confused him with a different John Kincaid (pension application W3428) who had been accused of fraud by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton. The letter below explains. For further discussion of Singleton's investigation, see the pension application of David W. Sleeth (S6111).

"The Rev. War pensioner John Kincaid, Va. troops, S. file 19367 - a resident of Fayette Co. Va. was erroneously dropped from the pension roll on account of the report from Singleton the U.S. District Attorney dated Feb. 13, 1835 being filed by mistake in his claim. Said report is headed, "John Kincaid, Pensioner Allegany Co."

I have left all these papers in this claim [file S19367] because all of the correspondence is endorsed on the jacket, also because a John Kincaid of Fayette Co. wrote a letter of inquiry in regard to the man of Fayette Co. and also because there were two Rev. War pensioners of that name, one in Allegany Co. Va. and the other in Allegany Co. Va. [sic] and as I did not know how far the district of the U. S. Attorney extended in 1835 and the borders of those states were disputed I do not wish to apply it to the wrong case again. The statement made in the report is so vague that no pensioner should have been dropped without further investigation anyhow.

A Wilson July 6, 1915"